

15. The following table gives the lands that have been selected for reservation, but have not yet been finally notified under Section 19 :—

Name of Forest.	Taluka.	Area in Acres.
Ali Ganj	Tatta	431 20
Hilaya		849 18
Shah Louko		312 10
Tatta		12,388 30
Garko		933 23
Chhachh		3,361 27
Khairwah	Jacobabad	56 30
Gokulpur		64 30
Tarai	Naushahro Abro.....	2,349 5
Chango Rahuja		1,749 35
Choi		3,132 20
Adamji		4,352 25
Phohyroi		473 4
Musti Khan		225 0
Nurketi	Hala.....	643 5
Drago	Ghotki.....	2 5

16. The regular demarcation of forests in Sind may be said to have been completed, but it may be found desirable to take up certain large areas of waste land near the banks of the river in the Hyderabad Collectorate, that can yield little or nothing to Government in their present condition, but which under proper management could be converted into babul forests to meet the growing demand for firewood due to the establishment in the district, of cotton and other mills worked by steam power, and also to meet the larger demand for babul firewood by the railway, which now takes this kind of wood in unrestricted proportion with other wood.

17. There was no expenditure incurred during the year under the head of forest demarcation and settlement.

CHAPTER II.

SURVEYS, WORKING PLANS, AND ANNUAL PLANS OF OPERATIONS.

18. The survey of the forests on a large scale giving all details of topography, nature of growth, &c., was continued.

Two surveyors were employed throughout the year with the following results in areas surveyed :—

Division.	Forest.	Area Surveyed.
Sukkur.....	Bhindi Dhareja	6,533 Acres.
„	Kadrapur	2,085 „
„	Deda	282 „
Jerruck.....	Penah	6,196 „
„	Khirsar	1,387 „
„	Susati	250 „

No change has been made in the system of working the forests, and there is nothing fresh of any interest to note under this head.

19. The work of cutting the forest up into compartments was continued and good progress made. The operation is approaching completion, but remains to be carried out in the newly acquired reserves, and in some of the old forests of the Jerruck Division.

20. The boundaries of all the reserves notified up to date have been laid down by cleared sides and boundary mounds as far as time and funds permitted.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT. SECTION 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

21. Mr. G. M. Ryan, Assistant Conservator of Forests, was in charge of the Sukkur Division from the beginning of the year till 2nd May, when he was relieved by Mr. A. Stewart, Deputy Conservator of Forests. Mr. Ryan's health had suffered from the effects of the climate in Sukkur during the previous hot weather, and a change to Lower Sind was considered advisable. Mr. Stewart remained in charge of the Sukkur Division during the rest of the year. Mr. Tuljaram, Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, served in the Sukkur Division throughout the year.

22. The Naushahro Division was under the charge of Mr. Neribdas Jethmal, Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, throughout the year.

23. The Hyderabad Division was in the charge of Mr. Showkiram Peribdas, Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests, from the 9th April to the end of the year. Mr. Hexton, who had held charge of this Division up to the date given above, was transferred by the orders of Government to the Presidency proper. Mr. Hexton, who served in Sind during the greater part of his service, had a thorough knowledge of the Sind forests and the people in and around them, and with whom he had great personal influence. I was very sorry to lose his services.

24. The Jerruck Division was in charge of Mr. Stewart, Deputy Conservator of Forests, up to May, when Mr. Ryan assumed charge on transfer from Sukkur.

SECTION 2.—GENERAL PROTECTION AND BREACHES OF FOREST LAW.

25. The general protection of the forests was good and the conduct of the Protective Establishment on the whole satisfactory, though I regret to have to report some cases of misconduct. Forester Khanchand, Sukkur Division, was reduced from 2nd to 3rd Grade for carelessness and suspected connivance at an attempted fraud. Forester Anandrai, of the same Division, was found in possession of a quantity of rafters he had removed for his own use from the forests under his charge, but for which he produced a receipt said to have been given by one Sidik, from whom the rafters were said to have been purchased. But on enquiry Sidik repudiated the transaction, and the receipt was found to be a forgery. During the departmental enquiry by the Divisional Forest Officer, Forester Anandrai behaved with great insolence, and accused the Divisional Forest Officer to me of having struck him and foully abused him.

As the accusations made by Anandrai were found to be entirely false, and there did not appear to be a shadow of doubt as to his guilt in respect of the rafters, I dismissed him and ordered him to be prosecuted.

A complaint was lodged against him on 14th December 1888 before the City Magistrate, Shikarpur, but owing to frequent postponements granted in the hearing of the case, it was still pending when the year under report came to a close.